



Northfield Library Board

MEETING MINUTES RECORD

Meeting: Regular Library Board Meeting

Date: April. 11, 2018

Location: Northfield Public Library

Start time: 7:00 p.m.

Bunday Meeting Room

Adjourn time: 8:25 p.m.

Members present: Tammy Hayes, Sarah Weeks, Jane McWilliams, Audrey Battiste, Teagan Watkins, Neina Abdulai, Clarice Grabau, Maggie Epstein, Ryan Redetzke, Brad Schaffner, Liz Reppe, Samuel Demas

Members absent: All members in attendance

Others present: Teresa Jensen (Staff Liaison), Becky Novotny (Clerical Liaison), Lynne Pederson (Fifty North), Rob Hardy (Poet Laureate)

1. Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair S. Weeks.	
2. Approval of agenda for Wednesday Apr. 11, 2018		Meeting agenda for Wednesday, April 11, 2018 approved via consent.
3. Approval of minutes from Wednesday, Mar. 14, 2018		Meeting minutes from Wednesday, Mar. 14, 2018 approved via consent.
4. Public Comment	No public comment.	
5. Visit from Lynne Pederson (Fifty North Director)	S. Weeks introduced Lynne Pederson, the director of Fifty North. L. Pederson said that they recently changed their name from Northfield Senior Center to Fifty North. They are in the NCRC building and have been there since 2000. They are a non-profit that is not owned by the city. They have an emphasis on fitness; with 62 classes a week. About 85% of the people come in for the fitness aspects of the center. They also offer art classes and lifelong learning classes. They have partnered with the library to offer classes. In the past the library has written grants for a class and then it was held at Fifty North. They like partnering with other organizations in Northfield. They have about 1,903 members; they started at about 500 members before they moved to the NCRC. For the last two years they have netted 100 new members. Most people that join the center are in the 65-75 age range. They have run out of space in their building. If there are any new trends in fitness or in classes they have no space to add them. That is a problem they see moving forward as the senior demographic in Northfield continues to grow and how much space they will need to keep up with the demand for senior activities. The building that houses Fifty North is owned by the City. They would have to work with the City to see if they could even add an addition to the building. L. Reppe asked where their funding comes from. L. Pederson said that they get money from membership fees and program fees. They have an annual fundraising drive. Their goal has been \$70,000 and they have met that for the last few years. S. Demas asked what their annual budget is. L. Pederson said about \$750,000. They have 17 people that work there; most of which are part-time. They also own the Used a Bit Shoppe and the popcorn wagon that earn money that comes back to the center. Last year they had 5 new members in January. This year they had 26. T. Jensen asked if transportation plays a role in their membership. L. Pederson said that is not a problem. Most all of their members still drive or take the transit. J. McWilliams asked if the bookmobile makes a stop at Fifty North. L. Pederson said they used to have it come, but it was found to not be used much. Most of	

	their members are still very active and come to the library on their own. L. Pederson said that the requests for computer assistance has somewhat started to decline and imagines that it will continue in that way in the future. She asked if the library offers computer classes and if that might be something they could collaborate on in the future. T. Jensen said that the library only offers computer classes in Spanish right now, but one-on-one Tech Time is available.	
6. Visit from Rob Hardy (Northfield Poet Laureate)	S. Weeks introduced Rob Hardy, Northfield Poet Laureate. R. Hardy said that he moved to Northfield in 1990. He was on the Library Board from 1995-2000. His wife worked at Carleton and he was staying home with his kids. He started writing poetry during that time. Three years ago the Northfield Library and the Arts and Culture Commission collaborated to create a Poet Laureate initiative, for which he applied, interviewed, and was chosen. Last year he published a book of poetry. His book was #8 of the best sellers at Content Bookstore last year. This is the second year of the Poet Laureate program. The first year it was supported by the City, the Library, and a SEMAC grant for \$9,600. Events and activities Rob participated in during 2016-2017: • Put together a Libguide on the library website • Created a Facebook page • Wrote 11 poems for public events (including poems for a City Council meeting and the poem in the atrium of the Library) • Poetic re-telling of the Nutcracker for the Cannon Valley Regional Orchestras performance • He brought many poets to Northfield to do readings; Leila Chatti, Anders Carlson-Wee, Neil Hillborn • First Northfield Poetry Festival In his second year there has not been a SEMAC grant supporting the Poet Laureate, so they have been supporting it with help from the FFOL and Carleton. In the second year, 2017-2018, here are the activities R. Hardy has worked on: • Be Heard Youth Poetry Slam where three Northfield High School students went on to the semi-finals in the Twin Cities • Event with Cathy Wurzer and The Convenings to discuss living well at the end of life for which he wrote a poem • Organized and hosted the Civic Poetics Festival at Carleton College, which featured poetry readings of well know poets • Brainstormed and created an all-school poem, with Prairie Creek students, that was posted in their school • Read a poem at the State of the City address event that was written with input from other Northfield poets called 'Vision: A Rhapsody on Northfield's Vision Statement' • Poetry reading in the Library atrium with Andrea Een which 65 people attended Coming up, there will be a children's poetry reading at the Library that he is doing with Emily Lloyd, Mayor Pownell, and the Northfield Schools Superintendent, Matt Hillmann, where they will read their favorite children's poem. On May 7, poet Danez Smith will be coming to the Library to do a reading. N. Abdulai asked if his job as Poet Laureate is to bring poetry to Northfield. R. Hardy said that since he is the first Poet Laureate in Northfield he does what he wants to do and does what other people want to do. He takes suggestions from the community and does what he can to make them happen.	
7. Reports		
a. Director's Report (Jensen)	Written report submitted. T. Jensen said that the City I.D. is moving along. There have been constant discoveries of things they didn't think about as the process has moved forward. I.T. is working with existing software to create a working database. T. Jensen thanked the Board for volunteering to help during the	

	Northfield Experience. Next week is National Library Week. There will be coffee and cookies in the Library atrium as well as various events throughout the week. The Library renovation project has finally been closed out. Angelica Linder, Outreach Coordinator, has been making connections throughout the community with similar organizations. One of those connections has been to bring in an English language learning class for the Fall. Clarice Grabau has been her point person to make this class possible.	
b. SELCO (Colwell)	No report. Colwell absent.	
c. Friends and Foundation of the Northfield Public Library (North)	B. North e-mailed in a report. The FFOL will be picking their finalists for the Library scholarship winners next week. They are working to prepare their semi-annual newsletter that will kick-off their May-June membership drive.	
8. Old Business		
a. Library Board community outreach (Weeks)	S. Weeks and B. North attended the City Council meeting. S. Weeks said that the library renovation project was closed out without much contention. S. Weeks asked if there are any volunteers to attend the Council meeting in April. There were no volunteers. S. Weeks decided it would be okay to skip a month of attending the Council meetings. S. Weeks asked to confirm that in May J. McWilliams is going to ask someone from the Elder Collegium to attend the Board meeting and C. Grabau is going to have someone from adult education attend. S. Weeks said that she received an e-mail from Lynne Young, FFOL president, asking to have a joint meeting with the FFOL and the Board. The FFOL would like to meet in May. The Board decided they would like to have a longer joint meeting possibly in September with the FFOL. S. Weeks will ask if Lynne Young would like to attend a Library Board meeting before then. During the May meeting, the Board will discuss the summer schedule and if a longer meeting will be planned for a retreat.	
b. Library Board Strategic Planning (Schaffner, North, McWilliams)	T. Jensen said that the supervisor team that wrote the rest of the library strategic plan looked at the library board's strategic initiatives; which are public awareness and partnerships. T. Jensen e-mailed to J. McWilliams, B. North, and B. Schaffner the information they discussed. J. McWilliams will e-mail the subcommittee to figure out a time for them to meet.	
c. Proposed Bylaw Updates (Weeks)	S. Weeks brought a draft of the by-law revisions that she put together with L. Reppe. She passed them out for the Board members to look over before the next meeting. She would like the Board to see if there are any changes to the draft that they want made.	
9. New Business		
Joint Meeting with the FFOL for May (Weeks)	Covered under 8. Old Business, a. Library Board Community Outreach	
8. Adjourn		
	Time: 8:25 p.m.	Motion: J. McWilliams Second: T. Hayes Meeting adjourned via consent.

Submitted by B. Novotny, Clerical Liaison